

OSMP Closures

Last Updated Tuesday, 31 July 2007

Area Closure and Condition Updates

OSMP makes every attempt to keep this page as up to date as possible. However, some closures and trail advisories are made on an emergency basis for the safety and well-being of our visitors, wildlife and natural resources. Please watch for these signs during your visit.

Click here for more information:

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Trail advisories and Fire Bans

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Seasonal grassland ground nesting bird closure lifted July 31: Thank you for your cooperation!

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Bat roosting site closures

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Raptor closures lifted July 31: Thanks you for your cooperation!

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Mud snail closures

Trail advisories:

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Emergency Fire Ban on OSMP: A complete fire ban on OSMP is now in effect until further notice: No person shall start, maintain or cause to start a fire or any other source of ignition including but not limited to matches, lighters, cigarettes and portable cooking fuel on any OSMP property. The regulation is in effect to prevent wildlife and to protect public

safety and natural resources.

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Construction at the Crown Rock trailhead will begin Monday, July 9, for installation of an ADA accessible restroom, ramp and to make parking lot improvements. The parking lot may be closed temporarily due to construction and hikers along the Flagstaff trail may experience delays or be diverted around the construction. Construction may last for several weeks. Please check here for updates.

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Construction of a roof on the cistern along the Cowdrey Draw trail in the Marshall Mesa area may cause occasional delays to visitors. The project may take several weeks to complete. Please check here for updates.

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Boulder County will begin paving operations July 9, continuing through mid-August from the base of Flagstaff Road to the Summit/Amphitheatre turnoff. Traffic up and down Flagstaff will be delayed. They will not be working on weekends. The purpose of the work is to create more room on the road for bicyclists.

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Marshall Valley Trail is now OPEN! It was closed temporarily due to trail damage. Trail maintenance will continue in the area -- please watch out for crews and possible temporary closures. (June 18, 2007)

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The High Plains Trail is now open! Thank you for your patience while we worked to repair an area that was vulnerable to damage due to severe muddy conditions.(May 3, 2007).

While the High Plains Trail is open, please be aware that some trail conditions on other city of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) lands have deteriorated due to melting snow and recent rains. Trail advisories may be issued throughout the system. Signs will be placed along the trail to inform visitors of the advisories which will be in effect until the trails dry. OSMP requests that visitors please refrain from using these trails until conditions improve.

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EM Greenman trail and Saddle Rock trail: Trail work is complete! Thank you for your patience during construction. Enjoy the trail!

Grassland ground nesting bird closures lifted:

Thank you for your cooperation!

(July 31, 2007)

Grasshopper sparrow nestlings

Bat roosting site closures

(Updated March 28, 2007)

OSMP will close Mallory and Harmon Caves, accesible from NCAR trailhead at the end of Table Mesa Road, Sunday, April 1 through October 1, 2007, to protect Townsend's Big Eared bats. OSMP will also close the east face of Der Zerkle rock formation, accessible from the NCAR trailhead, April 1 to September 1 to protec the roosting sites of Fringed Myotis bats. Female bats locate roosting sites in caves and rock crevices along the foothills, where the pups are raised in maternity colonies. The pups suffer high mortality rates even under normal conditions, so these seasonal closures help ensure they will remain undisturbed by humans during roosting season. Thank you for your cooperation!

Mallory Cave

Harmon Cave

Der Zerkle East Face

Raptor closures:

(Updated July 31, 2007)

OSMP has closed the Axelson property northwest of the Boulder Reservoir for osprey nesting and roosting activity until September 10, 2007. Also, land adjacent to the Boulder Aeromodeling facility near Boulder Reservoir is closed, but the facility is open.

Follow this link to meet some of the animals protected by these closures.

Follow this link to read the Final 2006 raptor update (55.33 Kb)

Please help us protect wildlife by:

Respecting all area closures.

Immediately leaving any closure area should you accidentally enter one.

Urging cooperative respect for closures from fellow park users.

Municipal fines are up to \$1,000 and jail time up to 90 days.

To learn about area closures on a particular part of OSMP, please click a quadrant on the map or select from the list at right. In addition to seasonal closures, OSMP may also enact emergency closures of certain areas. For the most up-to-date information, please check the regulation board at the trailhead or call 303-441-3440.

Northwest Quadrant

Includes Boulder Valley Ranch, Wonderland Lake, Foothills and Hogback Ridge, Mount Sanitas.

Northeast Quadrant

Includes Sawhill Ponds, Teller Lakes, White Rocks, Boulder Creek New Zealand Mud Snail closures.

Southwest Quadrant

Includes most rock climbing areas, Chautauqua and the Flatirons, Flagstaff Mountain, Bear and South Boulder Peaks, Eldorado Springs area

Southeast Quadrant

Includes Marshall Mesa, South Boulder Creek, Dry Creek

Bald eagle nesting closures run from November 1 until July 31.

Cliff-nesting raptors are protected from February 1 through July 31.

Overview Map of OSMP This map shows the entire land system and all closure areas. (138 Kb)

Northwest Quadrant

Lefthand Canyon Palisades NOW OPEN

(Updated July 16, 2007)

Mt. Sanitas Ridge --1st Buttress Only NOW OPEN

(Updated July 16, 2007)

Northeast Quadrant

Boulder Creek closure to all access for New Zealand Mudsnaills

Kolb Property: NOW OPEN (near 75th and Valmont) for Bald Eagles

Axelson Property (near Boulder Reservoir)

Southwest Quadrant

Skunk Canyon: Ridge 2 and all areas west of Ridge 2: NOW Open!

Sacred Cliffs: South rib of Green Mountain: NOW OPEN

North side of Fern Canyon: NOW OPEN (Fern Canyon Trail is open): East Ridge, Nebel Horn Ridge, The Goose, Goose Eggs

The entire Third Flatiron: NOW OPEN (Updated July 31, 2007) all routes, including: The Descent Trail, Queen Anne's Head, W.C. Field's Pinnacle, 1911 Gully, The Ghetto, The East and West Ironing Boards, The Fin, Green Thumb, and Jaws

The Matron: All areas within 1/4 mile radius: NOW OPEN

Entire Devil's Thumb Ridge: NOW OPEN Towers of the Moon, Elephant Rock, Jamcrack Spire, The Maiden is OPEN to climbing with access from the EAST side only.

Mickey Mouse Wall: all routes NOW OPEN

Southeast Quadrant

Coal Creek: NOW OPEN (east of Hwy 93 near Marshall Lake) for Bald Eagles

More Wildlife Links

»Wildlife Watching Ethics

- »Mammals
- »Birds
- »Insects
- »Bears & Mountain Lions
- »Rare and Sensitive Species
- »Prairie Dogs
- »Wildlife Protected by Area Closures
- »Reptiles / Amphibians